various exhibitions including that of toys. To help indigenous manufacturers in technology upgradation and modernisation and to assist them in marketing their products internationally, government gives grant in aid to recognised associations and export promotion councils to participate in international trade fairs and organises seminars. During 1995-96 Electronic and Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ECSEPC) was assisted to participate in toy fairs in Dubai by giving grant in aid of Rs. 5.75 lakhs.

Strike by Lawyers

2214. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether any Committee has been constituted for preparing proper guidelines to check the increasing number of cases consequent upon the frequent strike of lawyers and closure of courts;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any report has been submitted to the Government by this Committee;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT AND DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP) : (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) to (e). Does not arise.

Loading of Coal

2215. PROF. RITA VERMA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the collieries of BCCL where loading of coal by pay loader has been opposed;

(b) the reasons for such opposition; and

(c) the extent of loss suffered in the matter of coal production due to above reason during 1992-93, 1993-94 and 1994-95?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH) : (a) and (b). According to the information received from Coal India Limited (CIL) there have been no instances of coal loading through pay loaders being obstructed by the employees of BCCL. However, outsiders/unauthorised persons did obstruct loading of coal through pay loaders on certain occasions. Such obstructions have been confined to road sale of coal and transportation of coal to washeries/ sidings. The name of collieries/dumps from where such instances had occurred are as under :-

1. Jealgora
3. Kusunda OCP
4. Rajapur/South Jharia OCP
5. Bera
6. Dobari
7. Kuya
8. Bastacolla
9. Nudkharkee

(c) The Coal Company has intimated that there has been some loss of production of account of the above obstructions in 1994-95, it is not possible to precisely quantify the loss on account of such obstructions.

[English]

Equity participation in Small Scale Sector

2216. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Small Scale Sector is allowed 24% equity participation;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether this equity limit is sufficient for Small Scale Industrial Sector to get funds and modern technology; and

(d) if not, the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) and (b). Presently other industrial undertakings constituted as companies can invest up to 24 per cent in the equity of a small scale unit. If equity investment goes beyond 24 per cent, the unit loses the SSI status.

(c) and (d). The equity participation limit of 24 per cent is derived from the definition of small scale industries which states that a small scale unit cannot be owned, controlled or be a subsidiary of other industrial undertaking. 24 per cent equity participation has been allowed precisely to attract equity type investments from large industries into the small scale sector. Investments in the small scale sector using this equity route have however, not been considerable.

Control of Cement

2217. SHRI SOUMYA RANJAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether some of the cement manufacturers are refusing to sell cement to Government departments;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to reimpose control on cement and also fix its price;

(d) if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Ministry of Industry has not received any complaint regarding refusal by cement manufacturers to sell cement to Government departments.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no such proposal with the Government at present.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) After decontrol of distribution and price of cement there has been an impressive growth of the industry both in terms of capacity and production and technology. Since the installed capacity is much in excess of domestic demand there is competition in the market which prevents suppliers from increasing the prices unreasonably.

[Translation]

Janata Cloth Scheme

2218. SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of funds released by the Government under the Janata Cloth Scheme to Gujarat during each of the last three years;

(b) whether any request of Gujarat for release of old subsidy amounting to several lakh of rupees under the Janata Cloth Scheme is pending with the Government;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when the subsidy is likely to be released?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) Details of funds released to Government of Gujarat during last three years under Janata Cloth Scheme are as follows :-

(Rs. in lakh)

1993-94	-	Rs. 155.37
1994-95	-	Rs. 147.15
1995-96	-	Rs. 27.49

(b) to (d). A sum of Rs. 22.76 lakhs was disallowed from the claims of Gujarat Rajya Handloom and Audyogic Sahkari Federation Limited under Janata Cloth Scheme for 1991-92, 1992-93 (for the quarters January-March'92 and April-June'92) as these claims were not found eligible as per the guidelines for implementation of the Scheme. The Government of Gujarat have reprsented to Government of India for release of this amount which is being re-examined and a decision would be taken soon.

Group Insurance Scheme

2219. SHRI D.P. YADAV : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have introduced Group Insurance Scheme for powerloom workers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of powerloom workers covered under the scheme so far State-wise; and

(d) the number of powerloom workers likely to be covered under the scheme during the year 1996-97 State-wise and funds earmarked thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (d). Yes, Sir. The Government of India had introduced a Group Insurance Scheme for Powerloom Workers in association with the Life Insurance Corporation of India during the year 1992-93 (Statement enclosed). All powerloom workers of age between 18 and 60 years and those who had worked during the year shall be eligible for Insurance under this scheme. A weaver who had earned at least a minimum average pay of Rs. 700/- per month during a year can join the scheme. Every member of a family who satisfies the minimum income condition alongwith all other conditions of eligibility for the scheme shall be eligible to join the scheme. The scheme envisages an annual premium to be shared equality by the Central Governmnt, the State Government and the powerloom Worker. For an insurance coverage of Rs. 10,000/- the annual premium will be Rs. 120/-. Contribution of Government of India would be channelised through the State Government on reimbursement basis.

Number of workers to be covered in a year depends upon the proposals submitted by the State Governments under the scheme.

Benefits :

(a) On the death of a member, the sum assured of Rs. 10,000/- under the policy shall become payable provided the member is a powerloom worker as defined for the purpose. In addition to the basic sum assured the amount accumulated in the running account would become payable with interest of 11% per annum.

(b) On reaching the terminal date or being disqualified as a powerloom worker, the accumulation in the running account only would become payable with interest at 11% per annum.

(c) In case of death due to accident an amount of Rs. 20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand) will be paid to the family of the member in addition to the accumulated amount in the members running account payble with interest of 11% per annum.